

INGERSOLL'S LATEST ASSAULT UPON
REVEALED RELIGION.

His Account of the Foundation of
Christianity Upon Heathen Fables--
A Well-Connected Arrangement of
Orthodox--The Old Arguments to

When Col. Robert G. Ingersoll came upon the stage of the National Theater last night the audience that filled every seat noted the fact that the already scant crop of hair which adorns Mr. Ingersoll's head was becoming silvery in hue. He was attired in faultless evening dress, and the stage was set as a drawing room.

and was, for the most part, a defense of his theory of existence and destiny of humanity. He began his lecture abruptly, by saying that men were divided into two classes—sinners and sinners. The former are the spiritual people, and spiritual people were those who live upon others. In discussing his own ideal of a spiritual man, he said that they were men who made the world happy; men who do not want to go to heaven while

independence than in all that Jehovah said: more in the Venus de Milo, and music, and poetry than in all the sermons ever preached; more in Beethoven's Sixth Symphony than in any Presbyterian orthodox sermon that has eternity in heaven and independence in hell. Our fathers had struggled for the free-love of

Then come the myth-makers, the spirits of imagination, which are clothed in human shape, and are invested with human blood. They tell us that we are made in the image of people, as we can imagine. "There is nothing original in religion," he said. "We have the same mistakes, the same faults. The same passions, the same desires, the same reason, and of Paradise are the same." By the way, no theologian has been able to account for the sorrow and misery of the world except by saying that man is being punished for the sin he committed before he was born. If Paradise is gained it will be for intellectual triumphs, not for passing the forbidden fruit. Take the universal flood, the universal myth. It is the wonder tale of the nations. It seems to know that the sea was over the earth.

At the origin of the novel as related in the *Arise, My People*, the Hindu saint, the Hindu saint who abstained from everything but water, and who took a little fish out of the waters one day and kept it until it grew to be a large fish, and then he ate it, and he was cured. The fish told the saint to get his friends and a pair of every kind of animals, and from somewhere the fish produced an ark and saved the saint. The speaker didn't any doubt that the speaker had read the story, but he knew that the fish was the same that had saved Jesus and Hercules. Among the Hindus and Arise, sun worship was the first religion, and the sun was the god of the world that there could have been a more natural G. S. Apollo was a sun god, Balda and Krishna were sun gods, Jonah was a sun god. The de-

"Now the minister—no, the Sunday school superintendent," said Col. Ingersoll, putting, "for when a story is too silly for the pulpit it goes to the Sunday school"—tells the children the story of Sampson and Jonah. Sampson, he believed, a sun god. His hair were rays of the sun, and when it was shaven by Delilah, which means night, it simply meant that the sun went into winter quarters when the rays were cut off. The

"Now, there is the fable of Red Riding Hood," said Col. Ingersoll. "Red Riding Hood is the devil, the wolf is night, and the young cavalier is the sun who comes to release her. All the savages in Africa know the story. Let me say that in my judgment our Christ is a sun god. Now, take the idol of every nation and tribe; they were all born at Christmas, all met with violent deaths, all buried and rose again. Take the elements of the church; it is the same as the elements of the universe."

breed as we do to-day. Imagine a man drinking the blood of a shapeless, bloodless, passionless God.

Col. Ingelsoll's reason for attacking Christianity was because it lacked consistency—because he wanted to get "this devil of fear out of the world." He was attacking their ideas

reviewed the scriptural teaching of the miracles worked, and said that the people who were there didn't believe in them. He asked why God had permitted babies to be sacrificed and men slain for His religion—why the people He had saved did not save him. The truth is, according to Fingersoll's view, that these stories of miracles were originated centuries after He was said to have lived. "To prove the miracles," he added, "let somebody raise somebody

and mother of superstition, for then stories without facts, occurrences that never occurred, found their origin. When a man prays to an idol the Protestant says: 'Why don't you shut your eyes and pray to an ideal?' And that supports my theory of the sun god, for when you look at the sun you have to shut your eyes. Let us cultivate imagination, and when we can experience the feelings of others, that puts an end to the orthodox hell."

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury on the collection of duties, made public yesterday, with the appendix, is a document of about 1,500 pages. It contains the replies of 229 customs officials throughout the country to the circular sent out by the Secretary some time since asking for information relative to evasion of customs revenue; a history of the investigations ordered by the department; the

the extent the force employed in the various collection districts can be reduced without detriment to the public service; a history of the inquiry into the management of the barge fleet at New York and the correspondence relating thereto; and a mass of other valuable information. It contains a tabulated statement of the reductions effected in the customs service since May 1, 1883, which gives the total amount per annum saved by the reductions in

A Midnight Fire Alarm.
About 11:45 p. m. an alarm of fire was turned in from box 57 for a slight fire in house 1926 Pennsylvania avenue. The upper floors are occupied as a dwelling by Wm. Keane, and in the lower floor N. Elbaum has a clothing establishment.

PERSONALITIES.

REPRESENTATIVE BOUTELLE, of Maine, will be accompanied at the Hamilton this winter by his wife and three young daughters.

SEN. DON ABELARDO ZELAYO, vice president and minister of finance of the republic of Honduras, accompanied by Henry T. Panting, will

SENATOR MILLER, of California, arrived in New Orleans yesterday, and will start for Washington in a couple of days. Mrs. and

FRIENDS of Minister Cox in this city say the attempt to make it appear that Mr. Cox is "disgusted with life in Constantinople," and "will soon resign his diplomatic position," is a weak invention similar to that lately started about Minister Pennington at Berlin. Private conversation with Minister Cox, indeed, amply

pretty safe to predict that Mr. Cox will serve out his present term as minister to Turkey.